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Scientific Contributions from the Entomological Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Canada.

A NEW ELACHISTID MOTH FROM MANITOBA.

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OTTAWA, CANADA.

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Among some micros collected at Aweme, Man., by Mr. Norman Criddle, Field Officer of the Dominion Entomological Service, are two specimens of a species of *Heliodines*, of the family Elachistidæ, which is undescribed. The specimens were reared by Mr. Criddle from larvæ found feeding on *Oxybaphus nyctagineus*, a widely occurring representative of the *Nyctaginaceæ* in Canada. I therefore propose the name:

Heliodines nyctaginella, sp. nov.

Antennæ dark metallic grayish-purple. Palpi pale yellow, tipped with black. Face, head and thorax blackish, shining; thorax with greenish reflections. Fore-wings bright golden-orange, with nine metallic bluish-gray, more or less elongate, spots, six costal and three dorsal, all edged with black basally. Base of costa and margin of dorsum to first dorsal spot black. Space between first and second costal spots mostly black, particularly at costa and not so wide as space between third, fourth, fifth and sixth spots, which are equidistant. The first dorsal spot is opposite the space between the second and third costal spots, the second dorsal between the third and fourth costal spots and the third dorsal between the fourth and fifth costal spots; apex from last costal spot and edge of dorsum to last dorsal spot black. In this margin of black there is a conspicuous band of metallic blue-gray scales. Cilia brown. Hind wings bronzy-brownish; cilia brown. Abdomen and legs blackish with bronzy-green reflections.

Alar expanse 10 mm.

Habitat:—Aweme, Man., July, 1913 (Norman Criddle). Type deposited in collection of Entomological Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa; paratype deposited in U.S. National Museum, Washington.

As to the placing of the species in the genus *Heliodines*, Mr. Busck, who kindly examined the specimens, states that "the species may be described as *Heliodines*, though differing from the type of this genus *H. roesella* Linn., of Europe, in having the apical veins in forewings separate, not stalked. In this character the species agrees with the closely allied genera *Lamprolophus* Busck,

and *Embola* Walsm., but both of these have pectinated posterior tibiæ and this character has probably more weight in this group than the slight difference in the venation.''

H. nyctaginella has smooth tibiæ like *H. roesella*. It comes nearest to *H. albaciliella* Busck, being nearly identical in markings but much smaller and without the white cilia in the hind wings.

During the past season Mr. Criddle sent me larvæ of *H. nyctaginella*, from which the following note was made:

Mature Larva—Length 6 mm., dull green, darker dorsally. Thoracic shield black, pale stripe in centre. Anal shield blackish. Tubercles blackish each in a pale circle; single-haired; setæ dark. Feet pale. Head pale brown, marked outwardly with black.

The first moth emerged July 17, and others up till July 24. These specimens have been compared with the type and no apparent variation occurs.